



# Sheldon School

**BE KIND | BE BRAVE | BE THE BEST YOU**

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2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well and that you and your family have enjoyed a restful and enjoyable summer break. As we begin the new academic year, I am delighted to welcome back our returning families and extend a very special welcome to our new Year 7 and Year 12 students, and to the parents who are joining our school community for the first time.

## Return to School

School begins as normal for all students on **Wednesday**, except Year 12, who will return on **Thursday**. Timetables are now available on Epraise, and paper copies will also be issued to students during tutor time. Earlier this week, our pastoral leads shared reminders about equipment and uniform expectations. These will continue to be a focus during tutor time so that every student is equipped and ready to learn in each lesson. Please note that we have added some items to the *essential equipment list*, so do check this carefully.

## Summer Improvements

The start of a new school year always brings a sense of excitement and opportunity. Alongside staff preparing lessons to ensure every child feels supported and inspired, our site team have been hard at work improving our facilities over the summer.

### Highlights include:

- Painting and decorating across the school, with new carpets in key areas.
- Upgraded ICT facilities, including new computers and an extended music suite.
- A new photography dark room.
- Refurbished Year 7, 8 and 9 toilets.
- New internal and external doors to improve safety and appearance.
- Basketball hoops fitted in the Year 8–11 playgrounds.
- Additional play equipment for break and lunchtime.
- Six new electric vehicle charging points at the front of the school, available for staff, parents, and visitors, as part of our commitment to becoming a net-zero school.

We are proud of these improvements and hope students will both enjoy and respect the new facilities.

## Training Days – What Did We Do?

When my youngest child asked me what an “insect day” was and why he couldn’t see the insects, I thought it would be useful to share what actually happens on our training days!

This year, our professional development focused on teaching and learning approaches inspired by Doug Lemov’s *Teach Like a Champion*. Staff trained on three key strategies — **Show Call, Show Me, and Entry/Exit routines** — which build on the work we’ve been developing over the last two years.

We also completed our annual safeguarding, child protection, and SEN training, ensuring that all staff are well prepared to support students' safety and wellbeing.

Finally, we introduced our new homework platform, **SENECA**, following strong recommendations from our School Council, who had found it extremely valuable when preparing for exams last year. We believe this will enhance the quality of homework across the school, particularly supporting Years 11 and 13 with revision, but also benefitting younger students preparing for end-of-topic tests. Parents and students will receive more information about SENECA later this term.

### Safeguarding Update

Over the summer, we installed new fences and gates at the front of the school to further secure the site during the day, evenings, and weekends. **A reminder:** if you are visiting during school hours, please report to the main reception via the main car park, as all other entrances are locked.

### Key Dates and Events

Week 1 1 <sup>st</sup> September	
Monday	Staff INSET Day
Tuesday	Staff INSET Day
Wednesday	Term 1 starts for students at 8.25am (apart from Y12)
Thursday	Year 12 start
Week 2 8 <sup>th</sup> September	
Tuesday	Year 7 individual photos (AM) Year 9 individual photos (PM)
Wednesday	Year 11 individual photos (Lessons 1-3)
Thursday	DofE Gold Expedition leave Year 7 tutor group photos

Finally, please keep an eye on our newsletters, social media posts on our [Facebook page](#) and the school website for updates and information about upcoming events. If you have any questions or concerns at any time, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,



Pete Lynch  
Headteacher

# Sheldon School Term Dates 2025 – 2026

<b>Academic year begins</b>	Mon 1 September 2025 (students return on 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept)	<b>SDD Days School Open for staff</b> Mon/Tues 1-2 Sept 2025 Thurs 23 Oct 2025 Mon 5 Jan 2026 Fri 27 Mar 2026
<b>October Half term</b>	Thurs 23 October 2025 – Fri 31 October 2025	
<b>Christmas holiday</b>	Fri 19 December 2025 (finish 12.35pm) – Mon 5 January 2026	
<b>February half term</b>	Mon 16 February 2026 – Fri 20 February 2026	<b>SDD DAYS School Closed</b> Mon 1 Dec 2025
<b>Easter holiday</b>	Fri 27 March 2026 – Fri 10 April 2026	
<b>Half term break</b>	Mon 25 May 2026 – Fri 29 May 2026	
<b>Summer term ends</b>	Fri 17 July 2026 school finishes 12.35pm	

## Reports Home schedule

	Settling Report	Interim 1 Report	Interim Plus Report
<b>Year 7</b>	Tues 25 November 2025		Weds 22 April 2026
<b>Year 8</b>		Weds 19 November 2025	Tues 21 April 2026
<b>Year 9</b>		Weds 17 December 2025	Weds 08 July 2026
<b>Year 10</b>	Weds 15 October 2025	Tues 13 January 2026	Tues 19 May 2026
<b>Year 11</b>		Weds 12 November 2025	Thurs 05 March 2026
<b>Year 12</b>	Thurs 16 October 2025	Mon 26 January 2026	Weds 20 May 2026
<b>Year 13</b>		Mon 03 November 2025	Weds 04 March 2026

<b>Year 11 Revision Evening</b> Thurs 25 Sept 2025  <b>Sixth Form Open Evening</b> Thurs 16 Oct 2025  <b>Awards Evening</b> Weds 22 Oct 2025  <b>Year 13 Revision Evening</b> Weds 14 Jan 2026  <b>Year 9 Options Evening</b> Thurs 22 Jan 2026  <b>Open Mornings</b> 24-26 Sept 2025 22-23 Jun 2026  <b>Year 6 Open Evening</b> Weds 24 Jun 2026	<b>Parents' Evenings</b> <b>Years 7-9 - 4:00pm – 6:30pm (f2f)</b> Year 7 L side      Thurs 14 May 2026 Year 7 R side      Tues 19 May 2026 Year 8 L side      Thurs 30 Apr 2026 Year 8 R side      Tues 05 May 2026 Year 9 L&R side    Tues 27 Jan 2026  <b>Years 10-13 – 3:45pm – 6:45pm (f2f)</b> Year 10      Thurs 11 Jun 2026 Year 11      Mon 05 Jan 2026 (3-7.30pm) Year 12      Thurs 26 Feb 2026 Year 13      Thurs 20 Nov 2025  <b>Year 12 Parent Information Evenings Opportunities &amp; Expectations</b> Thurs 18 Sept 2025 <b>Post-18 Options</b> Tues 9 June 2026  <b>Year 10 Work Experience Parent Information Evening</b> Tues 4 Nov 2025  <b>New Year 7 Parents' Evening</b> Thurs 9 Jul 2026 6-9pm	<b>Year 11 &amp; 13 Mock Weeks (classrooms)</b> w/c 29 September 2025 ( <b>Y13 only</b> ) w/c 06 October 2025 ( <b>Y11 only</b> ) w/c 13 October 2025 ( <b>Y11 only</b> ) ( <b>Sports Hall</b> ) w/c 26 January 2026 w/c 02 February 2026  <b>Year 7 &amp; 8 Assessment Weeks</b> w/c 09 March 2026 w/c 16 March 2026  <b>Year 9 &amp; 10 Assessment Weeks</b> w/c 24 November 2025 w/c 01 December 2025 w/c 08 June 2026 ( <b>Y9 only</b> ) w/c 15 June 2026 ( <b>Y9 only</b> )  <b>Year 12 Assessment Week (classroom)</b> w/c 15 December 2025  <b>Year 10 &amp; 12 Mock Weeks (Sports Hall)</b> w/c 20 April 2026 w/c 27 April 2026	<b>Year 10 Work Experience Weeks</b> Week beginning 15 June 2026 Week beginning 22 June 2026  <b>Year 12 Work Experience Week</b> Week beginning 06 July 2026  <b>Christmas Concert</b> Thurs 04 Dec 2025  <b>School Production</b> Weds 10 & Thurs 11 Dec 2025  <b>Year 11 Prom</b> Weds 17 June 2026  <b>Year 13 Ball</b> Tues 30 June 2026  <b>Summer Concert</b> Tues 07 July 2026
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